

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUBJECT Attitude of the Population Toward the
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- Communist attempts to break down the traditional structure and cultural life of the Rumanian people were very pronounced. I feel, however, that the traditions and culture of the people have been so strong in the past that the force applied by the Communists only increased the desire of the people to maintain their culture and traditions. The greatest resistance to change was found in the Church. The people in general discussed among themselves how much pressure was being applied to change the traditions and culture. Although the children of school age were subject to the Communist changes in their education, I believe that the parents and older people were countering the Communistic teachings after school hours. If and when Communist domination ends, its teachings will quickly disappear because of the strong feeling the people have for their traditions and culture.
- Whether or not the Rumanian people are more concerned with their hand-to-mouth existence or the political suppression of individual liberties depends on the class of people and the material things on hand. I feel that the poorer classes were especially concerned with their daily existence while the people with the material things, those with more education and possibly more idealism and patriotism, were more concerned and thought more about the loss of freedom and liberty of the country through suppression by the Communists. However, both classes were undoubtedly concerned with the loss of individual liberties. The loss of individual freedom and the loss of material things for daily existence were subjects of discussion among both classes.

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